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**Executive Registry** 

85- 2544

25 June 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM:

Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT:

SOVA Conference Remarks

Here are a few points I think I want to make in my brief welcoming remarks at the SOVA conference tonight.

- Disinformation and semantic twisting has not been sufficiently recognized as an intelligence target. We have seen it used as a weapon in the enhanced radiation fight, the INF fight, and now again in the SDI fight (give me another example or two).
- It also confuses us in our policy orientation. Right now there is a question as to whether the current terrorism crisis is simply the reaction of terrorists, or of a quasi-religious origin, or an aspect of the Arab-Israeli conflict, or part of a much broader strategic thrust in which the Soviet Union uses Moslems in the Middle East and in the Philippines and Catholic liberation forces from Central America to the Philippines. This makes a great difference in our policy responses.
- We need to look at the Soviet fanning of the Iranian hostage crisis and the Soviet reaction to the current one. We need to assess disinformation thrusts accurately in order to detect and expose them, in order to rebut them, in order to avoid their being confused in our own policy orientation as we assess the real reality without being confused by false assessments.

William J. Casey

